

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WELLIN 01580 300446Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 SSO-00 NSCE-00

A-01 USIE-00 /051 W

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FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5252

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 01580

EO:11652: ADS-DECLAS 5-31-78

TAGS: OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER F.), NZ

SUBJECT: RESCHEDULING OF VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT

REF: (A) WELLINGTON 01515 (NOTAL), (B) STATE 080055 (NOTAL)

1. ADDITIONAL QUERIES TO THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE
INDICATE THAT MR. MULDOON WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE TO HOST
THE VICE PRESIDENT AT ANY TIME DURING THE PERIOD
APRIL 18-MAY 4. IN ADDITION TO ATTENDING THE ASIAN
DEVELOPMENT BANK MEETING IN VIENNA, THE PRIME MINISTER
WILL BE MAKING OFFICIAL VISITS TO THE FRG AND MEXICO
DURING THAT PERIOD. ON THE OTHER HAND, WE HAVE
LEARNED THAT THE VISIT OF THE DUKE AND DUTCHESS OF
KENT, ORIGINALLY PLANNED FOR MAY 10-23, HAS BEEN CAN-
CELLED. (NONE OF THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PUBLICALLY
ANNOUNCED, SO PLEASE PROTECT.)

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2. PRIME MINISTER MULDOON DID ANNOUNCE YESTERDAY AFTER-
NOON THAT PARLIAMENT WOULD OFFICIALLY OPEN ON
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 WITH THE SWEARING-IN OF THE NEW
SPEAKER, J. R. HARRISON, FOLLOWED BY THE FORMAL
OPENING (THRONE SPEECH) ON MAY 11. THERE WILL BE A
SHORT MEMORIAL SESSION FOR THE LATE SPEAKER, SIR ROY
JACK, ON FRIDAY, MAY 12, AND THEN A RECESS UNTIL THE

FOLLOWING TUESDAY AFTERNOON, MAY 16, WHEN THE ADDRESS-
IN-REPLY DEBATE BEGINS. MULDOON WILL HAVE TO GIVE THE
MAJOR GOVERNMENT SPEECH IN THE DEBATE IN THE EVENING
SESSION OF THAT DAY.

3. THE OPTIMUM TIME FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT'S VISIT
THEREFORE REMAINS MAY 6-9, WITH THE POSSIBILITY OF
ALSO USING MAY 10 UP TO 2:30 P.M. A LESS DESIRABLE
"WINDOW" IS THE PERIOD EXTENDING FROM MID-DAY, FRIDAY,
MAY 12 TO 2:30 P.M., TUESDAY, MAY 16. THERE ARE NO
IMPEDIMENTS AFTER MAY 16 THROUGH THE END OF THE MONTH,
EXCEPT FOR THE NATIONAL PARTY ANNUAL DIVISIONAL CON-
FERENCE ON MAY 20-21. THE LATTER IS A "MUST" FOR
MULDOON IN AN ELECTION YEAR. SELDEN

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